(vi) **Industrial Training Institutes (ITI).**—It has been decided to double the number of Industrial Training Institutes in the North East for imparting training in new trades during the next three years with an outlay of Rs. 100 crores.

(vii) **Information Technology.**—It has been decided to establish Community Information Centres in all the 446 Blocks in the seven North Eastern States and 40 Blocks in Sikkim at a total cost of Rs. 100 crores.

Number of Freedom Fighter Pensioners

*380. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of Freedom Fighter Pensioners, total amount disbursed every year during the last 3 years;

(b) the number of application received from various States requiring Government sanction for pension: and

(c) the names of applicants from Assam whose applications are pending for sanction indicating the date of receiving application, reasons for delay and likely time to be taken for sanction ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) A statement indicating the number of applications received and the number of freedom fighters in whose cases pension has been sanctioned by the Central Government is enclosed in statement (*see* below).

Information about the total amount of pension disbursed during the last years is given below :—

(Rs. in crores)

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Amount of Pension disbursed	131.98	177.52	177.79

(c) No case, complete in all respects and eligible for Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension, duly verified and recommended by the State Government of Assam, is pending.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Applica-tions	Sanctioned	Rejected
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	50,587	11,254	39,333
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	41	0	41
3.	Assam	27,884	4,436	23,448
4.	Bihar	1,18,450	24,819	93,631
5.	Goa	4,526	911	3,615
6.	Gujarat	8,203	3,580	4,623
7.	Haryana	7,804	1,676	6,128
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4,353	603	3,750
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	12,594	1,806	10,788
10.	Karnataka	22,324	10,008	12,316
11.	Kerala	53,607	2,875	50,732
12.	Madhya Pradesh	9,142	3,360	5,782
13.	Maharashtra	43,756	16,543	27,213
14.	Manipur	717	62	655
15.	Meghalaya	181	86	95
16.	Mizoram	17	4	13
17.	Nagaland	35	3	32
18.	Orissa	17,957	4,182	13,775
19.	Punjab	31,785	6,986	24,799
20.	Rajasthan	7,168	800	6,368

1	2	3	4	5
21.	Tamil Nadu	22,744	4,086	18,658
22.	Tripura	3,568	886	2,682
23.	Uttar Pradesh	41,824	17,977	23,847
24.	West Bengal	80,650	22,443	58,207
25.	Andaman & Nicobar Inslands	73	3	70
26.	Chandigarh	281	89	192
27.	Daman & Diu	103	33	70
28.	NCT of Delhi	6,373	2,040	4,333
29.	Pondicherry	2,956	315	2,641
30.	Indian National Army	39,108	22,463	16,645
31.	(INA)			
	Total	6,18,811	1,64,329	4,54,482

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Military Preparation in Western Region

2754. PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV :

SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that hurdles are being created in military preparation in western region of the country as reported in Rashtriya Sahara on 17th February, 2000;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor together with the circumstances responsible for these hurdles; and

(c) if not, the reaction of Government on the recent statement of Chief of Army Staff in the said matter ?